

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Patent Office for the careful attention accorded this Application and respectfully request reconsideration in view of the Amendment above and remarks set forth below.

In response to the Office Action mailed March 18, 2009, Applicants have canceled Claim 46 without prejudice or disclaimer, and have amended Claims 31, 32, 34-36, 38, 40, 42, 43, 45, 48, 50, 54, 56 and 57 to improve the form of the claims and to avoid any basis for rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Applicants have also added independent Claims 59-62, directed to subordinate features of the present invention.

Applicants also hereby submit a Terminal Disclaimer to overcome the obviousness-type double patenting rejection in view of copending Application Nos. 09/695,744; 10/059,078; 11/823,828; 10/059,076; and 10/058,970. Applicant has expressly abandoned US Application Nos. 11/804,769; 10/876,261; 10/602,990; 10/693,856; and 09/716,848.

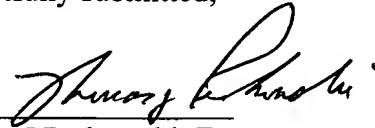
In view therefore, of the Amendment and Remarks set forth above, Applicants firmly believe that the present invention defined by amended Claims 31-38, 40-43, 45, 47-52, and 54-57 and new Claims 59-62 is firmly believed to be neither anticipated by, nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art of record, and that the present application is now in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

After amendment a total of two (2) independent claims and twenty three (23) claims in all remain. Applicants previously paid for three (3) independent claims and thirty (30) claims in all, and believe that no further claims fees are due at this time. However if the Commissioner deems it necessary, he is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account 16-1340. Assignee of record, IPF, Inc., still qualifies as a small entity for the purpose of paying reduced fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 18, 2009

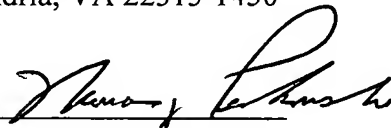


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Date: September 18, 2009